

announced, came up for informal discussion, space permitting the mention of only a few, as the ship-worm and its destructive activities, the disappearance of the eel-grass from New England waters, and the increasing distribution on this side of the Atlantic of *Helix nemoralis*.

At the May meeting the following officers were elected for the coming year:

President	CHARLES H. BLAKE
Vice-president	AUSTIN W. CHEEVER
Conchological Recorder	S. N. F. SANFORD
Secretary and Treasurer	THEODORA WILLARD
Executive Committee	MILDRED SEYMOUR
	WILLIAM J. CLENCH

On May 26, the club held its annual field meeting. This was at Marion, Massachusetts, by invitation of Mr. Howland. Twenty-three intrepid members were not deterred by unpromising weather, and in spite of grey skies and a temperature of only 50°, motored to Marion, to be met there by our host. After spending several hours on the beach, returning with many treasures filling bags and pockets, the members drove to his house, where they were welcomed by Mrs. Howland. Ample justice was done to a delicious luncheon, and then followed an inspection of Mr. Howland's collection of shells, and it was not until mid-afternoon that they started on the homeward drive, all expressing the conviction that it had been the most delightful field meeting ever held by the club.—THEODORA WILLARD, *Secretary*.

CHARLES CURRY ALLEN

Charles Curry Allen, one of the best known and ablest naturalists in the State of Florida, died at his home in St. Petersburg, April 27.

Born in Morrison, Ill., in 1862, where at the age of 10 years he took an interest in fossil shells and the bones of prehistoric animals he gathered together an interesting collection.

His parents did not believe in much schooling but a teacher at Elk Falls, Kans., where he lived at the age of 15 and 16, took a great interest in him and taught him to educate himself. As a result he devoted all his spare time to reading the best books and became a very well educated man. What he read he retained and was ready at all times to get up before an audience and give a good talk on almost any subject.

Well do I remember on one occasion when he and I were down the coast on a collecting trip we chugged over to Cortez for supplies. The storekeeper asked us to attend a political meeting that evening in the hall back of the store. When the meeting was opened and the candidate for Governor introduced, all he said was that he saw in the audience a man much better able than himself to address them and called on Mr. Allen. With his blue shirt, overalls and slippers without socks (we had been sifting sand and mud most of the afternoon) he took the platform and the people listened spellbound at his delivery of facts and statistics given as easy as reading from a printed form. Mr. Allen had previously run for Governor of Florida on the Socialist ticket.

Coming to Florida over 40 years ago he started his shell collection and later opened up a curio shop, giving this up about 15 years ago.

With myself and with others he took many trips to the East Coast, Everglades, Bahamas and Cuba. Several new species of his finding are called *Alleni* and *Curryi* in his honor. His series of *Liguus* and the Cuban *Cepolis* and *Polymita* are among the finest.

Collectors who came South were always hospitably received by Mr. Allen, and none went away without benefitting from the visit. He had a host of foreign collectors on his list with whom he exchanged often.

As a man he was always upright, honest and generous almost to a fault. His ideas on peace were so forceful that a plan of which he was the author was read before the Peace Conference at Copenhagen.

Mr. Allen was twice married and a son born from each mar-

riage. These, with the second wife and two sisters, survive him.
—D. L. EMERY.

NOTES AND NEWS

WILLIAM B. MARSHALL, assistant curator of mollusks in the United States National Museum, retired from government service on April 30, at his own request, after serving for more than thirty-two years. Mr. Marshall has been given an honorary appointment, under the Smithsonian Institution, as associate in zoology at the U. S. National Museum.

PHYSA ACUTA Draparnaud IN MASSACHUSETTS.—A series of this species was recently submitted for naming by Mr. C. P. Winsor. These were collected in a tank used to cultivate algae at Harvard University. Several aquarium supply stores in the vicinity of Boston have been selling Australian species of *Bulinus*. It is quite possible that these may become established in our local ponds and streams, as happened in the case of *Viviparus malleatus* Rve.—W. J. CLENCH.

PLANORBIS OPERCULARIS PLANULATUS IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.—Some months ago I received from Mr. E. P. Chace a small vial of tiny non-marine shells which he had collected in 1916 in a swamp along Balona Creek near West Adams St. Examination of them revealed the following: *Lymnaea bulimoides cassi* Baker, *Physa heterostropha osculans* Haldman, *Planorbis opercularis planulatus* Cooper, *Succinea oregonensis* Lea, *Succinea sillimani* Bland, *Paludestrina stearnsiana* Pilsbry, *Pisidium*, species undetermined. This is the first record I have known of *P. opercularis planulatus* in southern California. The other species with which it was associated are typical of swampy places in this vicinity.—WENDELL O. GREGG.

DR. PILSBRY AND DR. FRANCIS PENNELL are spending the summer in investigating the mollusks and plants of northern Mexico.

DR. STANLEY T. BROOKS, Curator of Recent Invertebrates at the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pa., will sail in June for several months' collecting in Newfoundland. The trip is for the purpose of studying the circumpolar and nearctic molluscan fauna although collections of plants and insects will be made.

